

Kate Lowery: <u>kate@apccollective.com</u> - 512-657-0925 D'Andra Ulmer: <u>d@meandthebees.com</u> - 512-689-2203

Austin-based Me & The Bees Lemonade expands reach to include Austin-Bergstrom International Airport

Three Refreshing, All-Natural Lemonade Flavors Now at Concourse Eateries and Shops

OCTOBER 27, 2022. (AUSTIN, TX) – <u>Me & the Bees Lemonade</u>, the woman-and-Black-owned lemonade company founded in 2009 by Austin teen social entrepreneur Mikaila Ulmer, today announced it has "beelined" into Austin-Bergstrom International Airport – just in time for the busy fall and winter travel seasons.

Travelers can find the premium, ready-to-drink lemonade at several Austin airport outlets including restaurants Annie's Café & Bar, Earl Campbell's, East Side Pies, I Vini, Juiceland, Medici, The Peached Tortilla, Salt Lick BBQ, Tacodeli, and retailers The Austin Chronicle store, Book People and Jet Set Market. Flavors at the airport include:

- Classic Lemonade An updated twist to an old-fashioned classic that strikes just the right sweet and tart balance.
- **Prickly Pear Lemonade** The cheerful addition of prickly pear cactus fruit that is pervasive in Austin will make taste buds hum, thanks to the aromas similar to a raspberry and watermelon combination.
- **Black Cherry Lemonade** The latest addition to the brand's lemonade lineup blends ripe, black cherries with classic lemonade for a new flavor sensation.

"There are so many iconic local eateries at the airport. And what better pairing for a tasty taco, some traditional Texas barbeque, or slice of from East Side Pies than a cold, refreshing lemonade that tastes good and does good?" said Ulmer, who started Me & the Bees Lemonade when she was just four years old. "Expanding into the Austin airport is about more than us being super proud to offer our all-natural beverages to busy travelers; it's also the chance to proudly represent Austin and share our amazing entrepreneurial success story that our hometown has helped foster."

Me & the Bees' presence throughout the airport is thanks to a partnership with hospitality and entertainment company Delaware North, which operates food and retail services at about 30 airports worldwide, including in Austin. To celebrate its launch into the airport, the company has created special Me & the Bees branded merchandise including T-shirts, magnets, stickers and postcards with

a retro Austin vibe, which will also be available for sale at the shops in the concourse. Plus, Mikaila's best-selling book, *Bee Fearless, Dream Like a Kid*, is also available at Book People at the airport.

"With open arms, we welcome Austin's favorite lemonade brand as a way to help travelers quench their thirst on the go," said Terry Mahlum, general manager of Delaware North's travel division. "We hand-picked this premium, all-natural lemonade brand not only because it offers fun and delicious flavors lower in sugar, but also because of its commitment to social and environmental responsibility – including saving the bees."

Always keeping its mission of saving the bees at the forefront, Me & the Bees Lemonade seeks to help educate consumers about the role bees play in the ecosystem and the alarming decline in their population. It gives a percentage of its profits to Ulmer's non-profit organization, the <u>Healthy Hive Foundation</u>, which is dedicated to increasing bee awareness and safe environments through research, education, and preservation. A portion of all Austin airport sales of Me & the Bees will go to maintaining and installing beehives at Austin-area schools through the Whole Kids Foundation.

"Austin-Bergstrom International Airport has a proud commitment to supporting and celebrating our city's local businesses, and we are proud to have Me & the Bees Lemonade products for locals and travelers alike to discover and enjoy," said John Gallo, property management and business development manager at Austin-Bergstrom International Airport. "It is especially meaningful for us to support a young person's business that is such a wonderful success story. We know our passengers will love Me & the Bees Lemonade."

The lemonade, which is served in 12-ounce bottles, is made with premium ingredients, including honey and flaxseed – the latter of which was key in a recipe created by Ulmer's great-grandmother, the inspiration behind the creation of Me & the Bees Lemonade.

Now offering five flavors in more than 6,000 other distribution points across the country, the certified minority-owned company continues to experience high growth from its humble beginnings in Austin, ranking as an Inc. 5000 Fastest Growing Company in the U.S. and the number one ready-to-drink lemonade growth brand in its category. More information can be found at www.meandthebees.com or by reading Bee Fearless, Dream Like a Kid. published by Penguin Random House in 2020.

Photos and b-roll of the product at the Austin airport can be found here.

###

About Me & the Bees Lemonade

In 2009, when Mikaila Ulmer found her Great Granny Helen's flaxseed lemonade recipe in a 1940s family cookbook, she was excited to try it. In 13 years, the company that started as a lemonade stand in a front yard in Austin, Texas, has quickly grown to a national brand with distribution to all 50 U.S. states. The shelf-stable lemonades contain no high-fructose corn syrup, no preservatives, or additives. They are made with premium ingredients including U.S. Grade-A honey, real lemon juice, and flaxseed, which is rich in omega-3 fatty acids and antioxidants. Me & the Bees Lemonade can be found at Whole Foods Market, The Fresh Market, Natural Grocers, Target, Cost Plus World Market, at regional and local grocers, online at Instacart, GoPuff, and www.meandthebees.com.

About Delaware North

Delaware North is a global leader in the hospitality and entertainment industry. The company annually serves more than a half-billion guests across four continents, including at high-profile sports venues, airports, national and state parks, restaurants, resorts, hotels and casinos. Building on more than a century of enduring partnerships and a commitment to local communities and sustainability, Delaware North's vision is to delight guests by creating the world's best experiences today while reimagining tomorrow. Learn more at www.DelawareNorth.com and connect with us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn.